



**CALIFORNIA
HIGH-SPEED RAIL
AUTHORITY**

Weekly Executive Director's Report, Nov. 3-11, 2009

FROM: Mehdi Morshed, Executive Director
TO: Authority Board Members

TOPIC / UPDATE	LINE SECTION	AUTHORITY STAFF	RELEVANT DATE	NEXT STEP / ACTION NEEDED
TOP ISSUES				
Gateway Cities MOU Following Board approval, the Authority has finalized a Memorandum of Understanding with the Gateway Cities Council of Governments representing cities south of Los Angeles. The MOU, ready to be signed, establishes a working relationship between the Authority and the COG and assists the COG in necessary work to help evaluate the high-speed line through its cities.	Los Angeles - Anaheim	Mehdi Morshed	11/5/2009	Formal signing.
POLICY DEVELOPMENTS				
Caltrans Agreement The Authority has finalized and entered into a master agreement with Caltrans regarding construction work within right-of-way owned by Caltrans.	All	Carrie Pourvahidi, George Spanos, John Harrison	11/10/2009	
ENGINEERING/ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS				
Alternatives Analysis Workshop The Authority is holding a workshop to discuss the alternatives analysis process in the Merced - San Jose section and to recommend alignments to be carried forward in the Environmental Review Process and documented as part of a Draft Alternatives Analysis Report.	Merced - San Jose	Dan Leavitt	11/12/2009	A public information meeting will be scheduled and held to present the results of the AA Workshop.
LEGISLATIVE ISSUES				
None to report this period				

OUTREACH EFFORT HIGHLIGHTS

SD-LA Post-Scoping Activities

Following a dozen open-house public scoping meetings in the Los Angeles - San Diego section, regional management and outreach staff have engaged in a number of meetings, including a Nov. 10 meeting with the UC Planning Group - San Diego and de-briefing meetings with Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside county officials, as well as with members of the SR-60 Coalition.

Los Angeles -
San Diego

Jeff Barker

11/10/2009

Develop Draft scoping report for the section.

Community Walking Tour

members of the Los Angeles - Palmdale regional management and outreach team joined community members from Neighborhood Councils Nov. 8 to walk portions of the proposed alignment.

Los Angeles -
Palmdale

Jeff Barker

11/8/2009

Gilroy Activities

Regional management and outreach staff participated in a study session with the Gilroy City Council Nov. 2 and will make a presentation to the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce Nov. 13 regarding the project's status.

Merced - San
Jose

11/02/2009,
11/13/2009

MEDIA

Nothing to report this period

PUBLIC EVENTS

Scoping Meetings for the Altamont Project

Public scoping meetings have begun for the Altamont Corridor Rail Project, a project separate from CaHSRA's high-speed rail system but proposed jointly by the Authority and the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission to run from Stockton to San Jose. The first meeting was in Livermore on Nov. 10.

Additional meetings are scheduled for:

- Stockton, November 12, 2009
- Fremont, November 17, 2009
- San Jose, November 18, 2009

Altamont
Corridor

Dan Leavitt,
John Harrison

11/10-18/2009

More information contained in the NOP here: http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/images/chsr/20091026114818_ACRPNOP.pdf

OTHER AUTHORITY BUSINESS

Bureau of State Audits

The Bureau of State Audits has begun its routine audit of the Authority, with auditors conducting an introductory interview Nov. 9. The audit will be conducted over a period of months, with results expected in Spring.

All

Carrie Pourvahidi

11/09/2009 -

Work with auditors to produce the necessary information/documents.

Organizational Plan Peer Review

Consultant KPMG submitted its report to the Authority recommending priorities for immediate growth of the Authority's state staff. The Board's Executive/Administrative Committee voted to seek further input on the plan from those with additional expertise, forwarding the report to three members of the California High-Speed Rail Independent Peer Review Committee for their input.

All

Mehdi Morshed

11/10/2009

Place the proposed organizational plan on the December Board meeting agenda.

Chinese Consulate General Visit

Representatives of the Chinese government visited the Authority Nov. 10 to learn about the development of California's project and to propose a Memorandum of Understanding between the Authority and the Chinese Ministry of Railways for cooperation and the exchange of information relative to the planning, technical standards, funding and operation of the California project.

All

Mehdi Morshed

11/10/2009

Draft MOU and bring to December monthly Board meeting for approval.

Strategic Plan

Authority staff is engaged in the process of developing a strategic plan, which is required by the state.

All

Carrie Pourvahidi

Finalize strategic plan for submission to the Administration, include elements of the plan within the business plan, and publish on Web site.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Nothing to report this period